Delay in Finalisation of Super Computer Deal

@1579. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in the purchase of super computer from the United States and what are the hindrances in the way and what measures are being taken to overcome them; and

(b) whether any preconditions have been laid down for the supply by the United States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The U.S. Government's decision is awaited. The reasons why this has not yet been taken is not known to Government;

(b) As no agreement has yet been finalised, the terms and conditions are not yet known.

Inclusion of Konkani and Nepali in the eighth schedule of the constitution

1580. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include Konkani and Nepali languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Crude Drugs

1581. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA :
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target fixed for the export of crude drugs from India during the year 1986-87;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a possibility of heavy shortfall in the export of crude drugs from India; if so, the extent of shortfall and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the names of the crude drugs facing shortfall in export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) No, separate target for crude drugs was fixed by the Council.

(b) Yes, Sir. There will be a significant shortfall on account of adverse market conditions.

(c) Psyllium husk/seeds and Opium.

Improvement of Working and Productivity of NTC

1582. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of units of the National Textile Corporation which are running in profit and the number of which are running in continuous losses;

(b) whether it is a fact that many units of the National Textile Corporation which are running in losses are proposed to be closed;

(c) if so, what is the exact number of them and the amount of their accumulated losses so far; and

(d) what measures are being taken to improve the working and productivity of the National Textile Corporation?

@Previously Unstarred Question 1142, transferred from the 5th March, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAMNIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 9 nationalised and one managed unit of NTC made profit in 1985-86. 42 nationalised units and 16 managed units have been incurring continuous losses.

(b) and (c) No final decision has been taken to close down any NTC mills so far.

(d) Some of the important steps being taken to improve the performance of the mills under NTC are given below:—

(i) Periodic review of the working of the subsidiaries at the Holding Company/Government level;

(ii) Greater enforcement of accountability of top managers;

(iii) Millwise study of reasons of losses in heavily losing mills;

(iv) Selective modernisation programme/strategies have been adopted for resutling oriented gains within available resources;

(v) Efforts are being made to implement workers' participation scheme in the management of all mills under NTC;

(vi) To overcome the power shortage, self-generating capacity has been increased;

(vii) Rationalisation of labour without tears and control on employment of labour in mills;

(viii) Strict control and supervision over the operations of the mills;

(ix) Improvement in product-mix;

(x) Infusing better management at all levels;

(xi) Identifying the mills as profit centres and delegation of power and authority to the General Managers of the mills with responsibility for performance;

(xii) Bringing about economy in administrative expenses; and

(xiii) Strict control and supervision on the filling up of vacant posts.

National Safety Council

1583. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the adverse news reports on the working of National Safety Council (NSC) as reported in the *Times of India* of the 26th January, 1987;

(b) whether necessary corrective steps will be taken to ensure that academicians are not debarred from attending and contributing to such Conferences due to high registration fees and other inhibitions; and

(c) whether the work of the NSC is being reviewed to ensure industrial safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The Govt. have seen the news-item entitled 'Industrial Safety : NSC's Failure 'which appeared in the *Times of India* dated 26.1.1987. The National Safety Council, Bombay is a registered Society and a Public Trust registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1960 and the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 respectively. The Council manages its affairs independently. The news-item has been brought to the notice of the Council.

(c) There is no proposal to review the work of the National Safety Council.

Sale of Bill Forms by NDMC as 'Raddi'

1584. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Electricity Bill forms of the New Delhi Municipal Committee have been disposed of as 'old papers' recently;

(b) if so, how many forms were sold as 'raddi';

(c) what are the reasons for this sale of new forms?